(c) In recent years, the demand for C-band transponders has significantly gone up, exceeding the supply.

(d) The year wise availability of C & Ext-C band transponders is as follows:

Year		Transponders
1998	—	60
1999	—	64
2000	—	75
2001	—	70

Discontinuation of Central Projects

†906. SHRI DEVI PRASAD SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to discontinue 1076 projects out of total projects being run through the Central assistance and the Central Projects;

(b) if so, the amount spent by Government so far on these projects and results achieved therefrom;

(c) what has been return of the amount spent so far on these projects during the last two years;

(d) whether the amount has been misused; and

(e) if so, whether any action has been taken / is being taken / would be taken against the persons held responsible for it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (e) No, Sir, However, Planning Commission has undertaken a review of the existing schemes (Both Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes) and subject them to Zero- based Budgeting. The exercise will help in rationalizing the schemes by making them more focused and streamline the delivery system to ensure that benefits reach the target group.

Speedy Completion of Central Sector Projects

907. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that majority of the Central Sector Projects are suffering cost-overrun and time overrun;

(b) if so, the reason for such delay; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to complete projects as quickly as possible?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) As on 30th September, 2001, 454 projects costing Rs. 20 crores and above are being monitored by the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation. Of these, 210 projects have reported cost overrun of 70.6% and 163 projects have reported time overrun, ranging from 1 to 204 months, with respect tothe originally approved cost and schedule. The original cost of these 454 projects was Rs. 1,31,895 crores and the now anticipated cost is Rs. 1,71,932 crores, thus showing an overall cost overrun with respect to the original estimates of 30.4%

(b) The reasons for delay vary from project to project. Ingeneral, the reasons include delay in land acquistion, delay in award of contracts, delay in supply of equipment, lack of infrastructure, law & order problems, and fund constraints.

(c) the steps taken to ensure timely completion of these projects are as faollows:

(i) review of projects on monthly as well as quarterly basis by the Government

(ii) indepth critical review of the progress by the project authorities and the Administrative Ministries and follow up with the State Governments (for acquisition of land, rehabilitation related issues, expediting of forest clearances and provision of infrastructure facilities like water and power, ensuring law & order at project sites, etc.), consultants and other concerned agencies to minimise delays;

(iii) setting up of an Empowered committee in the concerned administrative Ministries for resolution of problems;

(iv) inter-ministerial coordination for resolving problems of inter-ministerial nature;

(v) making available matching funds on yearly basis based on updated costs to complete the projects in the advanced stages of implementation to achieve the revised completion schedule;and

(vi) reivews by the Minister-in-charge, in Prime Minister's Office and the Cabinet Secretariat.

GDP growth rate

908. SHRI NAGENDRA NATH OJHA:
SHRI V. V. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the latest quick estimate of GDP growth in real terms during 2000-2001 to 4 per cent assessed by CSO Compare a full, two per cent below the original estimate made in January, 2001 and 1.2 per cent below the revised estimate released recently in June, 2001; and

(b) if so, the details of the GDP as well as the sectoral growth rate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) yes Sir.

(b) The estimate of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is compiled at different points of time by the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) on the basis of available data from various sources. The estimates are revised from Advance (released in February), to Revised (released in June), and Quick (released in January next year) as updated data keeps on flowing from the source agencies.

The details of the Advance, Reivsed and Quick Estimate of GDP alongwith the sectoral growth rates for the year 2000-01, released respectively in February 2001, June 2001, and January 2002, are given in the Statement enclosed.

Statement

Estimates of GDP and sectoral growth rate at constant (1993-94) prices released in the Advance, Revised and Quick Estimates of National Income,